

HOUSE No.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Rita A. Mendes

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act establishing a municipal tax assessment increase limit.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Rita A. Mendes</i>	<i>11th Plymouth</i>	<i>1/20/2023</i>
<i>Michelle M. DuBois</i>	<i>10th Plymouth</i>	<i>2/7/2023</i>

HOUSE No.

[Pin Slip]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Third General Court
(2023-2024)**

An Act establishing a municipal tax assessment increase limit.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 Section 21C of chapter 59 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2020 Official Edition,
2 is hereby amended by adding the following paragraph:-

3 (o) The local appropriating authority of any city or town may, by majority vote, seek
4 voter approval to limit the annual increase on the total taxes assessed on real property classified
5 as Class One, residential; provided, however, that the limit shall equal 3 percent of the annual
6 increase or the percentage change in the Consumer Price Index published by the United States
7 Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, for such year, whichever is lower, for the
8 principal residence of a taxpayer as defined in section 1 of chapter 188; provided further, that the
9 limit shall not exceed 10 percent of the annual increase for said real property that is not the
10 principal residence of a taxpayer as defined in said section 1 of said chapter 188; and provided
11 further, that the total taxes assessed on said real property shall not exceed the rate based on the
12 full and fair cash valuation of said property. The question submitted to the voters shall be worded
13 as follows:-

14 “Shall the (city/town) of _____ be allowed to limit the annual increase on the total
15 taxes assessed on real property classified as Class One, residential?

16 Yes ___ No ___.”

17 If a majority of the persons voting on the question shall vote “yes”, the local
18 appropriating authority of the city or town shall be allowed to limit the annual increase on the
19 total taxes assessed on real property classified as Class One, residential pursuant to this
20 paragraph; provided, however, that any limits established under this paragraph shall apply
21 automatically; provided further, that any limits established under this paragraph shall not apply
22 to any increases in value to said real property resulting from improvements made by the
23 taxpayer; provided further, that any limit established under this paragraph shall not apply in any
24 fiscal year in which the real property is sold or otherwise transferred for consideration; and
25 provided further, that should a taxpayer cease to reside or intend to reside in said real property as
26 the taxpayer’s principal residence as defined in said section 1 of said chapter 188, the taxpayer
27 shall notify the local assessor’s office within 30 days to avoid the assessment of any penalties or
28 any other real estate obligations.